



## The role of Sesn2/AMPK/mTOR signaling pathway in the abnormal glucose metabolism caused by intermittent hypoxia and reoxygenation

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### Objectives

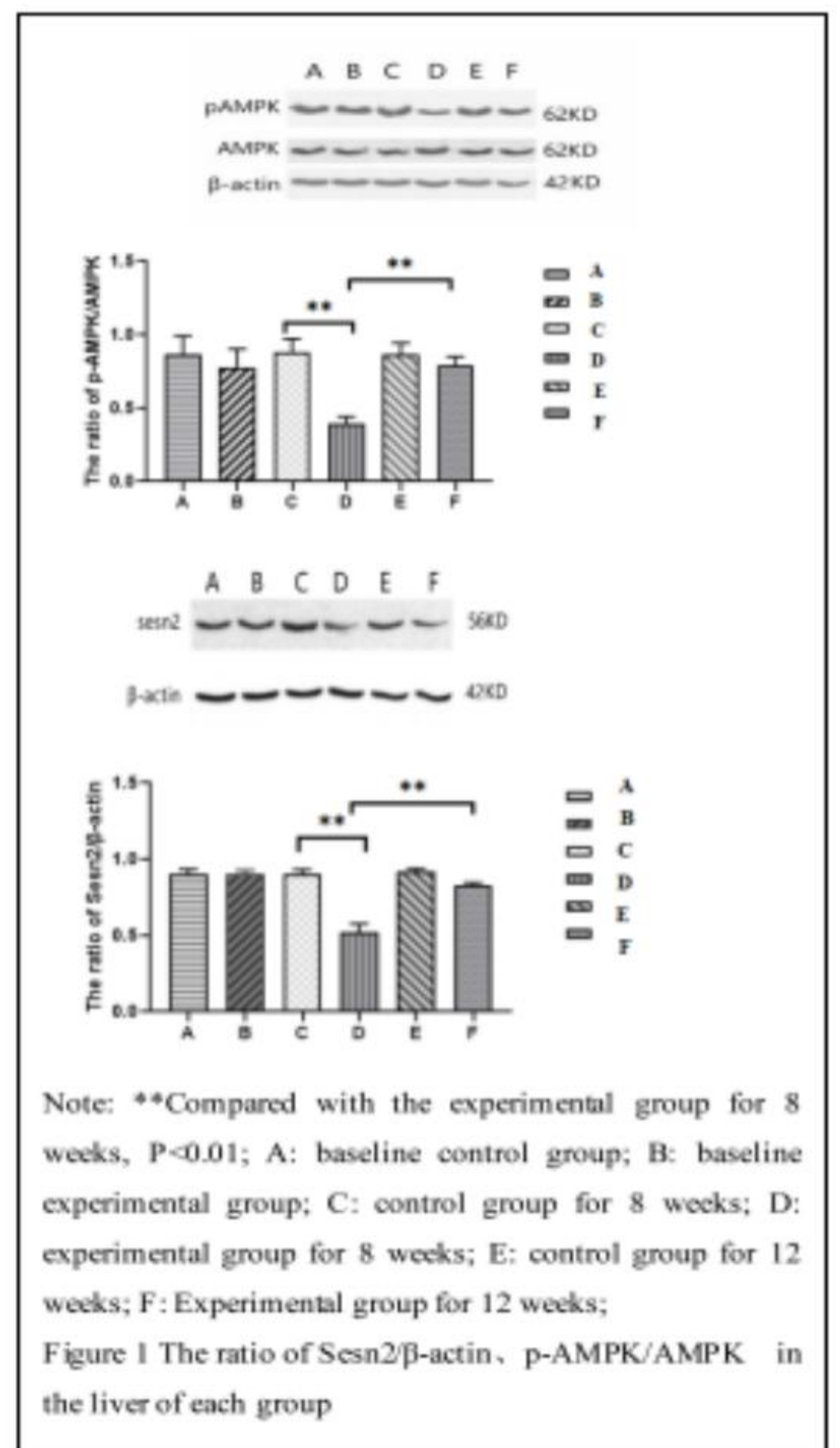
The effects of intermittent hypoxia-reoxygenation on fasting blood glucose (FBG) and fasting insulin (FINS) in rats, and explore the possible role of Sesn2/AMPK/mTOR signaling pathway.

### Methods

36 rats were randomly divided into a control group (NC) and an experimental group, each with 18 rats. The experimental group was placed in an intermittent hypoxic chamber for 8 hours/d for 8 weeks, and then fed under normoxia for 4 weeks; The NC group was always fed under normoxia. The levels of FBG, FINS, liver Sesn2, AMPK, p-AMPK protein, mTOR and LC3mRNA in two groups were measured at baseline, at the 8th weekend and at the 12th weekend.

### Results

Compared between groups, there was no statistically significant difference in various indicators at baseline ( $P > 0.05$ ); after 8 weeks of intermittent hypoxia, the levels of FBG, FINS, HOMA-IR, and mTOR in the experimental group increased, while Sesn2, p-AMPK/AMPK as well as the level of LC3 decreased, and the difference was statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ); after 4 weeks of reoxygenation, the standard indicators of the experimental group returned to the baseline level, and there was no statistically significant difference compared with the control group ( $P < 0.05$ ); Pearson correlation analysis showed that HOMA-IR was negatively correlated with Sesn2, p-AMPK/AMPK, and LC3 levels ( $r = -0.871, -0.974, -0.837, -0.828, P < 0.05$ ), but positively correlated with mTOR levels ( $r = 0.851, P < 0.05$ ).



### Conclusions

Chronic intermittent hypoxia can increase the levels of FBG and FINS in rats, which may induce down-regulation of autophagy by inhibiting the Sesn2/AMPK/mTOR signaling pathway in the liver, thereby mediating abnormal glucose metabolism.